

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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ACDA-05 EB-07 FRB-03 TRSE-00 INT-05 AID-05 COME-00

FEAE-00 CIEP-01 STR-04 CEA-01 /089 W

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R 101230Z NOV 75

FM QMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2154

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IN, PK, IR

SUBJECT: CHAVAN ON HIS IRANIAN TRIP

REF: TEHRAN 10866

1. EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER, Y.B. CHAVAN, RETURNED FROM HIS VISIT TO AFGHANISTAN, IRAN AND THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES ON NOV. 8. HE TOLD THE PRESS THAT IN HIS TALKS WITH THE SHAH AND THE MINISTERS OF THE IRANIAN GOVERNMENT HE HAD FOUND A SIMILARITY OF VIEWS INCLUDING COOPERATION AMONG THE INDIAN OCEAN COUNTRIES, AND THE MAINTAINANCE OF THE INDIAN OCEAN AS A PEACE ZONE. CHAVAN SAID THE SHAH WAS INTERESTED IN SEEING INDO/PAKISTANI RELATIONS IMPROVE. THE MINISTER EXPLAINED INDIAN INITIATIVES AND POINTED OUT THAT RECIPROCAL RESPONSES FROM PAKISTAN WERE NOT FORTHCOMING. CHAVAN ASSERTED, HOWEVER, THAT INDIA'S POLICY WAS TO WORK FOR NORMALIZATION PATIENTLY AND WITH DETERMINATION, CHAVAN ALSO SAID HE HAD NO PLANS FOR A MEETING WITH THE PAKISTAN MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE, MR. AZIZ AHMED, IN THE FORESEEABLE

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FUTURE.

2. ON THE ECONOMIC SIDE CHAVAN REPORTED IRAN HAD TAKEN AN INITIATIVE WITHIN OPEC FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FUND TO ASSIST THE MORE SERIOUSLY AFFECTED COUNTRIES. THE MINISTER HAD REPORTED HE SIGNED THE FINAL AGREEMENT ON THE KUDREMUKE PROJECT WHICH ENTAILED A \$630 MILLION LOAN TO INDIA. HE SAID IRAN WAS ALSO INTERESTED IN A COOPERATIVE ALUMINUM PROJECT. INDIA AGREED TO DISCUSS AND PREPARE A FEASIBILITY REPORT FOR A PULP AND PAPER AND FERTILIZER PLANT IN INDIA TO MEET IRANIAN NEEDS. THE MINISTER SAID IRAN WAS FAVORABLY INCLINED TO ASSIST IN THE RAJASTHAN CANAL PROJECT.

3. THE MINISTER'S REMARKS WERE CARRIED IN FRONT PAGE STORIES IN ALMOST ALL NEW DELHI SUNDAY NOV. 9 ENGLISH LANGUAGE EDITIONS.

4. POL COUNSELOR ON NOV 11 IS SEEING MEA OFFICIAL WGG ACCOMPANIED CHAVAN TO KABUL AND EMBASSY WILL REPORT AND ELABORATE ON CHAVAN'S COMMENTS ON AFGHANISTAN PORTION OF HIS TRIP AFTER THAT MEETING.
SAXBE

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Message Attributes

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